

Crawford County Genealogy

Remembering our Heritage — Enriching the Present — Ensuring the Future

2007 April

Larry M. Burmeister, 411 S. Redbud Ct., English, IN 47118

From Genealogy Trails: Crawford County website, forwarded to me by Roberta Toby.

“Connections”

The Wood and Fullenwider Families in America

by Thomas Fullenwider Wood

Introduction

When Charles Forrest Wood married Sallie Ellen Fullenwider in Crawford County in 1911 they connected two families with a rich American heritage. Both families had settled in Indiana in the early 1800's when Indiana was just entering statehood. While very different in many ways they shared similar experiences and raised families in interesting and difficult times.

Thomas Fullenwider Wood (Tom) started researching his family history when he retired from his work



Tom Wood, holding his son, Aunt Bob (Robbie Leonard Wood Parr, Grandmother “Babe” Sally Fullenwider Wood), At their home in Alton, Indiana.

as a researcher chemist. He kept up a vast correspondence with all of his “cousins” and was never happier than when he found another one. He didn't always find answers to his questions but he never stopped trying until his death September 24, 1995.

Family histories are often a mixture of tradition and fact. As we grow older memories are sometimes not exact and written records are not always available. Tom tried to verify as much of the family history as he could. Family traditions are noted as such and sources are given when possible. There are no doubt some inaccuracies but we hope they are minor and a good starting point for another cousin to explore.

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This book is Tom's and I'm glad to have been able to help him bring it to completion.

Marie Wood, Dec. 1995

Grandmother, Who are You?

*Thomas F Wood
213 Linger Lane, Sun City Center, FL 33573*

For some seventeen years, I've been trying to determine who my great -great grandmother really is. Family tradition has held that my great grandfather, Levi Benton WOOD, was the child of a Levi WOOD of New York and a “BENTON” girl, probably named Mary. Levi was supposed to have died young and the younger Levi BENTON was supposedly raised by his grandmother BENTON.

Last year I was surprised to hear from a distant cousin researching the BENTON family, that my great-great grandmother was actually someone called Thankful Benton, born Thankful REYNOLDS. He sent a copy of an obituary in which Thankful names Levi WOOD as her first husband, Daniel MCKANE as her second and David BENTON her third. According to the obituary, Levi WOOD of Perry County, Indiana (definitely my great grandfather), was her son.

At the time of her death in 1875, illness had caused the separation of David and Thankful and she was living with a KEEN family, possibly in Harrison, Ohio.

The obituary is, of course, secondary evidence. We haven't been able to obtain death records from Indiana, birth or marriage records from New York state, where presumably her first marriage took place, or any other verification of her first marriage or family.

The question arises then, who really is my great-great grandmother? The BENTON name has appeared

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in almost every generation since the early 1800's: Levi Benton WOOD, James Benton WOOD, John BENTON, Phillip BENTON, on assumption that it was a family name. Did someone just like the name or was it really great-great grandmother's as I had assumed all this time? At the age of eighty-two I probably don't have another seventeen years to search and I would really like the answer!

The Story Begins with Levi Wood (pages 1-15)

The earliest record found so far for this branch of the Wood family is a Bible record that states that Levi Benton Wood was born in New York State July 12, 1811. The entry in the Old Bible was made a number of years after the event and so far there has been no proof found of date or place other than this record. Both Ontario and Orange County in New York State have been suggested as possible places of birth.

Family tradition has always held that Levi's father was also name Levi Wood and his mother was "one of the Benton girls, possibly called Mary." But recent discoveries indicate that this family story may not be completely true.

According to an obituary of Thankful Reynolds (Wood?) McKane Benton (1), one of her descendents was Levi Wood of Perry County. Her first husband was named as being Levi Wood.

At this writing there is no other verification of Levi's parentage but there was no other Levi Wood living in Perry County at the time of Thankful's death and he was the Levi of this Indiana family. It seems more likely that his mother, then, was Thankful Reynolds 1). The Harrison News, Harrison, Ohio, Thursday, Feb. 25, 1875, p.2 sent by Greger Mitton, Burlington, KY

If this information is correct then Levi Wood and Thankful Reynolds (or Runnels) had a brief marriage sometime around 1810 in Ontario or Orange County. Since Thankful was born January 6, 1796 she would have been only about 14 years old but this was not uncommon for that time. It's possible that her husband died shortly before or after the child's birth. This has not been proven positively and the search goes on.

The next record of Thankful was around 1817 when she is supposed to have emigrated to Indiana from Yates County, New York. Thankful's sister Froaney, who married Joseph Benton in 1807, also emigrated to Franklin County Indiana around 1817 but she claims to have come from Orange County. She may also have lived for a while in Ontario County where Joseph Reynolds, who as probably her father, lived at one time.

According to records, Joseph and Elizabeth

Reynolds, who were probably the parents of Froaney and Thankful, also migrated to Indiana around 1817 though some records put the date at 1811. It is very likely the family moved to be together.

Thankful married secondly Daniel McKane (or McCain) August 7, 1819. Daniel died in 1826 (?) and Thankful married David Benton, October 17, 1826. A will for Daniel McKane has not been located but Letters of Administration, dated September 26, 1828, indicate David Reynolds was to settle the estate of the "goods, chattels, money, credits and effects of Daniel McKain, dec."

Thankful apparently became an opium addict in her later years and her husband left her to live with one of his children. She died in 1875 and the obituary was



Charlie Wood and his pet at his home in Alton, Indiana.

written by S. A. Keen, a minister of Harrison County, Ohio. Thankful had lived with members of the Keen family since 1836. She had lived with Rev. Keen's parents for a number of years, later with his brother George and was living with his sister Sarah when she died. According to the obituary she died Friday, Feb. 19, 1875. Before she died she had received David Benton's pension with the approval of his family.

Other than the stated Bible record there is no other record of Levi Benton Wood that has been located at this time of his early years. There is a young man listed in the census of Joseph Reynolds of the right age to be Levi in 1830 in Indiana. If Joseph was his grandfather this may have been Levi, as he did not marry until later that year.

In 1830 Levi married a fifteen year old girl named Isabella Crist in Franklin County, Indiana. (Marriage certificate available). She was born April 4, 1815 in Franklin County, IN and died in 1840 in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Isabella and Levi married October 25, 1830 and the minister was Ralph Williams. The Bible records her

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date of birth, but again it was recorded much later and cannot be verified. Efforts to find out who her parents were have been unsuccessful. Her place of burial in Little Rock has not been located; the cemetery has been built over.

Early land records show that Levi Wood received land from United States Patent 7-10-1832. (No amount of money was listed). It was described as the SW 1/4 of SE 1/4 Section 8 Township 12 Range 12E (Cert #4234) and was for forty acres. The certificate was dated Feb. 4, 1834. This would be in Laurel Township west of the town of Laurel. It was recorded 7/17/1837 in Book N Page 434.

According to genealogist Loraine Galls, the "History of Franklin County, Indiana, by August J. Reifel (1915), says that Laurel was platted about November 30, 1836 by pioneer James Conwell, who had been selling goods from his house before that date. He had intended to name the town New Baltimore but later changed it to Laurel. It is situated on parts of the Sections 9 and 10 in Township 12, Range 12 East.



Charles Forrest Wood.

The area grew rapidly in its early years as the canal was being constructed from 1839 to 1845. The first canal boat to pass through was called "Dove" and owned by W. Harding of Laurel. The opening of the canal brought in many new businesses. The population of Laurel in 1910 was five hundred and three.

Records show that Levi sold land in Franklin County to James Conwell, July, 1835 for \$140.

Levi paid taxes in Posey Township in 1831 and 1834 in Posey Tshp in Franklin County as did John Crist who may have been a parent or relative of Isabella.

Levi appears again in the 1850 census for Ohio Township and his age is listed as 40. He says he was born in New York and is a cooper by trade. In 1860 he is in the Patoka Township (Crawford County) census (p. 495).

The children of Isabella (Isabel?) and Levi Wood were:

Joseph Wood, b. Dec. 28, 1831 Franklin Co., IN d. Nov. 6, 1833 in Franklin Co., IN

Elizabeth Wood, b. May 12, 1834, d. Aug. 12, 1858. Elizabeth married Joseph Beals January 13, 1850 in Crawford County, Indiana. Their children were Mary Independence Beals (1857-1940), Samantha Isabelle Beals (1855-1915) m B. H. Irwin. Samantha's daughter Clara Ann married a man named Fortner and her daughter Eliie Fortner married a gentleman named Funk. John Alpheus Beals (1857-1940), m. Mary E. Bowman. Elizabeth is buried in Beals Cemetery, Crawford Co., IN (Additional information about the Beals family and descendents follows under "The Beals Connection"). Joseph eventually married two of Levi's daughters.

William Raymond Wood, b. July 23, 1836, Fayette Co., IN, d. 1897 East Prairie, MO. William married Sarah J. Jones, June 19, 1872 and later Pearlina Crabtree in Missouri on July 17, 1878. He was a veteran of the Civil War honorably discharged (National Archives). He filed for a service pension Dec. 19, 1879 as an invalid. (Cert. 414900). He died in East Prairie, Missouri, March 16, 1897. William died of Bright's Disease (physician's affidavit.) Researcher Helen Jean Byrn Sadler believes there may have been an earlier marriage before Sarah, to a woman called Mary, and that there were two children. Helen Jean bases her conclusion on a census record for 1860 which lists a William Wood of the right age in Indiana and lists two children Ellen and John. So far this is the only evidence of another marriage.

John Wood, b. Aug 25, 1838 and d. Nov. 6, 1842 in Franklin Co., IN.

Levi's second marriage was to Malinda Gerard (Jarrett) Feb., 28, 1841 in Rush County, IN. Malinda was born in Decatur County, Oct. 3, 1814 and died in Crawford County, IN in 1854. Malinda and Levi were married by Elijah Whitten, a regularly ordained minister in the M. E. Church.

Levi and Malinda are listed in the Crawford County census and he says he is a cooper. At that time he was 40 and Malinda 38 and the children living with them were William, 14, Mary, 9, Nancy, 8, Richard M., 5, and "Joaner M. ", 2.

According to a will filed in Franklin County, IN, in 1848 Malinda's parents were David Gerrard and Joanna Hobbs Gerrard. Malinda named her daughter Joanna after her mother.

Crawford county Land Records indicate that Levi bought and sold land often. Among other transactions Book Seven (p. 238) indicates a land transaction in Magnolia to Wm. F. Williams; in Book Eight (p. 497) there is a sale to Donald N. Beals on Feb. 1, 1860 for \$300. Other transactions involved Winston Gilbert in 1862 (Book 9, p. 408); Henry F. Lynch (his stepson) April 26, 1865 in Leavenworth (Book 12, p.307); to William Muller, Oct. 8, 1866 at Alton, (Book 13, p. 329); to Elizabeth Gilmore (Book 14, p2 April 13, 1869).

The children of Levi and Malinda were:

Mary T. Wood b. Feb. 10, 1842 in Decatur County and died in Crawford County, IN, October 1854. She was married to a man named Thomas Epperson, July 29, 1858. (Marriage Book B, p 333)

Nancy Wood, b. June 23, 1844, Dearborn County, Indiana and died October 18, 1873. Nancy married Joseph Beals April 23, 1863 in Crawford County, IN. She is buried in Beals Cemetery, Crawford County, Indiana.

The children of Nancy and Joseph Beals were:

Daniel Douglas Beals, b. Aug. 14, 1864.

Mary Ida Beals Melcom b. October 14, 1866, m. William Melcom, November 10, 1889, d. September 10, 1943. They had three children, Cleo, Claude, and Guy. Mary married a man named Hosmer after the death of Malcom. No children.

Stuart Alva Beals, b. 1871, d. Indiana Crawford County, 1951. Stuart m. Louisa McCullum May 28, 1899. Their Children were Gordon McCullum Beals and Alice Garnet Beals and J. Orman. Stuart was teacher and school executive for 60 years. He was superintendent of Crawford County Schools from 1903 to 1917. He is buried at Cedar Hill Cemetery at Leavenworth.

Richard M. Wood, b. Nov. 9, 1846, Crawford County, IN. d. July 9, 1880 Perry County. He was married to Evaline Cox in Crawford County, Indiana in 1869. The 1880 Census lists Richard M. Wood as head of household, age 34 and his wife as 25. She said she was born in Indiana and her parents were born in Kentucky. They list children at that time as Charles, age 7, William W., age 4 and Richard M. age 2.

Joanna M. Wood, b. Jan. 29, 1849, Leavenworth, Crawford County, Indiana, d. Feb. 15, 1947, El Paso, Illinois. Joanna m. Marshall Greenberry Newkirk Oct. 8, 1866. Joanna died in 1947 in Illinois at the age of 98.

Joanna's children were: (data in 1939)

Marry Matilda d. at 4 mos.;

Harvey Newkirk, dec.

Marshall L. Newkirk of Chenoa, IL
Alvey Newkirk, of Laport City, Iowa
Thomas Newkirk, dec.

William Newkirk, of Luther, Michigan
Mrs. Emily (Alvina) Batman of Great

Bend, Kansas

Mrs. Lurana Pence, of Bloomington, IL
Raymond Newkirk, dec.

Mrs. Cordelia Furrow, of El Paso, IL
(Cordelia married William Furrow and their daughter Shirley Ann married a man named Toole. One of their sons was named Steve.)

Mrs. Melvina Baldwin of Genesso, IL
Theodore Newkirk, of El Paso, IL
George Newkirk, of El Paso, IL
Roscoe Newkirk, of El Paso, IL
Porter Newkirk of El Paso, IL

According to an article in the *Daily Pantagraph*, Bloomington, Illinois, entitled "Oldest Person at El Paso Dies Saturday" (2-17-1947) Joanna had born 15 Children. She moved to El Paso in 1904. At the time of her death there were 35 grandchildren, 55 great grandchildren and 9 great great grandchildren surviving. Joanna was a member of the El Paso Church of the Nazarene.*

Sarah Ellen Wood b. June 26, 1851 Crawford County, IN, d. Feb 21, 1865.

Lurena Wood b. April 23, 1854, Crawford County, IN d. Sep. 30, 1919. Lurena married William F. Claycomb, September 16, 1873. (Certificate filed Sept. 18 (Perry Co?) m. by Peter Luxemburger, J. P. (Marriage Records, Vol. 4)

*A Curious note: At the bottom of a page of Joanna's Bible is the word Runnels. (Reynolds?)

Levi Benton Wood married Mary Emily Doolittle June 13, 1855 in Crawford County, IN. Mary Emily Doolittle was born October 20, 1825 in Pickering, Ontario, Canada. She was married first to Jeremiah Lynch April 13, 1843. Her husband was drowned while taking a flatboat to New Orleans.

They had four children between 1844 and 1852. They were Henry Francis, Sarah L. (m. Louis Morgan), John, died young and George J. Henry Francis went to live with his grandparents at the age of 13. Levi died at the home of his stepson Francis Lynch at Doolittle Mills, Indiana, October 2, 1896. He was buried in Doolittle Cemetery at Doolittle Mills, IN. Mary Emily died in Oriole, IN. October 12, 1895 and is buried in Doolittle Mills.

Mary Emily was a pioneer who helped Crawford County people in many ways. Her father Samuel Doolittle came to Indiana in the 1830's, possibly by water since it was easier to travel that way.

When Mary Emily married Jeremiah Lynch they made their home on a tract of land north of what is now Beechwood. They had a small cabin and raised sheep for food and clothing. He also constructed a lime kiln where he could burn limestone rock until it became lime which was carried by barge to be sold in New Orleans.

When Jeremiah went to New Orleans she stayed alone in her cabin with her baby and dog. It took many weeks to drift down to New Orleans and then walk home if they couldn't get a ride.

Mary Emily told her children that wolves used to climb on the roof of the sheep cote and howl. She would take a shovel of the live coals and toss them into the yard to scare the noisy wolves away.

Later she acquired some medical books on using herbs, roots, and other home remedies. She used them to learn how to care for her family and friends and neighbors when they were sick. Her children helped her gather the roots, bark, etc. during the summer. She also served as a midwife.

Mary Emily served as a seamstress and made everything from men's suits to woven blankets and coverlets. Her granddaughter Robbie had a family picture with a beautiful coverlet used as a background. Robbie was told stories about Mary Emily by her father who passed them on to his children and grandchildren.

The children of Levi and Emily were:

James Benton Wood, b. Oct 17, 1858 in Crawford County, Indiana, d. May 3, 1930 in Louisville, KY. He is buried at Orchard Knob Cemetery, Crawford County, Indiana. James was a carpenter. He married for the first time Sarah Elizabeth Kemp, October 9, 1876. Sarah was born August 9, 1856 and died August 25, 1897 in Crawford County, Ind. Sarah was the daughter of Abraham Kemp and Catherine Sheckles. James and Sarah are listed in the 1880 Census for Crawford County. He was 25, Sarah was 23 and children listed were Chloe, age 2 and Charles, age 1.

Children of James and Sarah were:

Chloe Florence, b. Sept. 16, 1877, d. Sept. 18, 1880 in Crawford County, Indiana

Charles Forrest Wood, B. Jan. 17, 1879 Crawford County, Indiana, d. June 18, 1944 at Alton in Crawford County. Charles married Sallie Fullenwider who was born in Crawford County, July 31, 1882. They were married September 14, 1911 in Crawford County, Indiana and had three children Thomas Fullenwider, James, and Charles.

James' second marriage was to Anna Martha Kemp, Sarah's sister. Martha was born Feb. 22, 1871 in Crawford County, IN. and died there on Sept. 6, 1946. She is buried at Orchard Knob Cemetery, Crawford Co, IN. James and Martha married July 21, 1898.

Children of James and Martha were:

Robbie Leona Wood, b. Sept 21, 1899 in Crawford County. Robbie married James Clive Parr July 20, 1919. James Clive Parr's parents were John Bloom Parr and Mary Ellen Landers. Robbie and Clive had four children, one of whom, James Franklyn, died very young. He was married to Barbara Ann Walton and they had one son. Robbie and Clive's other children are: Ruth Ellen, b. Feb. 2, 1921, m. Herbert Rufener, have one son James Herbert; Martha Delight, b. May 28, 1923, married Jerome Bowman and have two sons, Eldon David and Steven Charles. Eldon is married to Brenda Faulkenburg and Steven to Debra Nash. Mildred Marie was born August 21, 1925, m. Harlan Ray Maymon. They have three sons; have three sons, Bobbie Ray, Donald Franklyn, and David Wayne. David Maymon married Jamie Ann Montgomery and they have four children, Jeremy Alan, Joanne Marie, Janesse Lynne, Jared Donald. David Wayne is married to Linda Marie Hallensead.

Harry Lewis Wood, b. July 3, 1906, Boone Tshp., IN. Harry married Pauline Vernon, May 7, 1927. Their daughter Ruth Janice married Bord Byrn and had the following children: Helen Jean, Bord Edward, Lois Leona, Roy Wayne, and Harry Lee. Following their divorce Janice married Rupert (Bob) Terry and they have one daughter, Ruth Renee.



Alma Wood, b. June 23, 1911, d. May 15, 1924. Alma is buried at Orchard Knob Cemetery, Alton.

Levi's other children were:

Alva Theodore Wood, b. Aug 8, 1858, Crawford County, d. June 9, 1933, Louisville, KY. He married Mary Adeline Pearson, in Crawford County, September 17, 1876. Mary's father was G. W. Pearson

and her mother was called Nicey. Alva Theodore and Mary had two sons, Richard (Dick) and Claiborn (Clay). They lived most of their lives in Evansville, Indiana.

Sabra Jane Wood, b. October 22, 1860 in Crawford County, IN, died June 8, 1938. Buried in Fullenwider Cemetery, Crawford County, Indiana. Sabra married James Secor Mead, Nov. 5, 1876 in Perry County. (filled Nov. 9, 1876) One of her children, Stella Mead married Levi Brooks. He died May 14, 1948.

Other records of James B. Wood: Made purchases at Hollcroft and Son Store (Book 6) in 1895 Alton, IN.

Note: Much of the information about Mary Emily Doolittle came from granddaughter Robbie Parr who was told stories by her father. Robbie also had a family Bible and some information came from there but the Bible has been lost and can not be checked.

(Thanks to Ruth Terry & Harry Wood for the photos!)

Part Two of The Wood and Fullenwider Families in America

The Lynch Connection (pages 16-18)

Levi Benton Wood married for the third time Mary Emily Doolittle Lynch. By her marriage to Jeremiah Lynch she had four children. They were Henry, who was born February 4, 1814, Sarah L., who later married Louis Morgan, John, (deceased) and George J.

Jeremiah and Mary are listed in the Crawford County 1850 Census. At that time Jeremiah was 25 and Mary was 24 and the two children with them were Henry Francis, age 6 and Sarah L. age 4.

Living next door to them were Mary's parents Samuel Doolittle of Vermont, age 58 and Sabra Scott of New York, age 52. Children living with them at that time were John, 20; Nancy J, 18; Henry 15; Carol, 13; all born in Canada and Samuel W. age 9, who was born in Crawford County, Indiana.

George Jeremiah Lynch, one of Mary Emily and Jeremiah Lynch's children, was born June 9, 1853. He was married October 23, 1873 to Mary Ann Newton. Mary Ann (Polly) was born September 21, 1857/8 in Crawford County, Indiana. She died in 1882 and is buried in the Gilmore Cemetery, south of Eckerty in Crawford County, Indiana. George and Mary Ann had several children but the names of Alva Thomas who married Leora Nulton December 24, 1899, Alice and Maggie are the only ones traced. The others may have died in infancy. After Mary's death George married Mariah Lee Feb. 4, 1883.

Archives Happenings

The Archives are scheduled to begin their Spring and Summer Schedule on April first, provided the water is turned on so the restrooms will be available.

At our March meeting only two of the four days each week were volunteered for — Tuesdays and Fridays. That leaves Mondays and Thursdays open. Do we have another person or two willing to spend 4 hours a week at the Archives? If so, please let me know. Our two volunteers were: Hugh & Evelyn Jackson on Tuesdays and Richard Eastridge on Fridays.

I will fill one of the days available, so if we have no more volunteers we may have to cancel Mondays.

Following Jeremiah Lynch's death in Arkansas, Henry lived at home until the age of 13. At that age he went to live with his grandfather Samuel Doolittle and he lived with him until he enlisted in the service July 16, 1861. He served in Company H, Twenty-third Regiment, Indiana Volunteer Infantry and reenlisted in the same company and regiment January 5, 1864. He was discharged at Indianapolis on July 29, 1865 and fought in all the engagements of his regiments except the Battles of Shiloh and Fort Donelson.

Henry married Mary E. Murphey, daughter of Levi and Rachel (Hedges) Murphey, who was born February 6, 1848. Their marriage took place on September 18, 1865 and they had six children: John L., Olive J., Charles E., William J., Estella M., and Jeremiah. One of Henry's children, Charles E. Lynch was born September 16, 1872 in Crawford County, IN. He died November 1, 1962 in Perry County. He married Anna Hosmore, b. January 1, 1875 in Crawford County. They were married December 25 in Perry County, IN. She died in September, 1941 in Perry County, IN and is buried in Doolittle Mills Cemetery. Anna's parents were Otis I. Hosmore, b. 1854, d. 1925 and Sarah Stephenson, born 1856, d. 1940.

Henry was a farmer and also ran a machinery business. He owned 100 acres of land. He and his wife were members of the United Brethren in Christ Church.

Old Levi died at the home of his stepson.

Levi B. Wood and Mary Emily Doolittle are buried amongst the Lynch families, including his stepson, at the Doolittle Mills Cemetery. It is a beautifully kept cemetery high on a ridge. On Levi's tombstone are engraved the words "An Honest Man is the Noblest Work of God".

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Communications

From: "Carol or Billy" carolbilly94@bresnan.net
 To: "Larry Burmeister" burmeisterlarry@yahoo.com
 Subject: Re: Complete Crawford Co. Newsletter
 Date: Sun, 4 Mar 2007 20:51:35 -0700

As always a wonderful job. Thanks for your hard work. Carol Nicholson NW Montana

Hello All,

The library received an inquiry about the RAY family, wanting "any info, obits, etc." so I am checking if any of you have this family line:

Rebecca (Scott) or William Woodson Ray, both were born around 1833.

Mary Catherine (Longest) or George Ray. She died April 9, 1946, and he died Jan. 26, 1942. Their children were Ivan, Mamie, Gladys, Lillian, William, George, Joseph, Emma, Ora, and Annie.

Fanny (Gregory) 1837-1905 or Joseph Longest 1832-1900.

I found her the 1946, 1942, and 1905 obits from microfilm and I will email her those. If you have anything else on the families, the lady who sent the inquiry is Sara Wagner, and her email is: sararay20@yahoo.com

Thanks! Becky



Proctor-Wood Cemetery

Absalom Wood
 Died: June 3, 1843
 AGE: 49 Yrs, 28 Days

Fresh from The Printer:

Civilian Conservation Corps Co. 2583

A 157-page hardback book with lots of old photos. 86 of these pages are reprints of old "newspapers" printed in the camps and dated from January to July of 1936. An excellent book by our County Historian Richard Eastridge with the help of society member Roberta Toby. Priced at \$30.00. Contact Priscilla Eastridge or order through the society website CCHGS.org.

From the *Spooners Vermont Journal*, April 14, 1817

Bounty Lands For the Soldiers of the War of 1812... That part of the soldier's bounty lands lying in the Missouri and Illinois territories, being five millions of acres, are in a rapid state of preparation and will soon be ready to be allotted among the soldiers. The surveyor general Mr. Rector, following the instructions of the government, has employed more than eighty companies of surveyors comprising upwards of four hundred men and bound them in contracts to complete their surveys by the first day of June next. To make sure of five millions of acres fit for cultivation, upwards of eight millions are ordered to be surveyed. None will be offered to the soldiers which is not fit for cultivation and the surveys now include large bodies superior in fertility to the richest lands of Kentucky or Illinois. Some two and a half million acres will be in the Illinois territory in the fork of Mississippi and Illinois River, between the latitude 39 and 41 degrees north; in parallels corresponding with Washington city, Philadelphia, and the middle parts of Pennsylvania. This tract is washed by the Mississippi on the west and the Illinois on the south east and has an easy communication with lake Michigan by Chicago and may carry a commerce to New Orleans or to New York when the canal of that state is finished. Slavery is not admitted in the Illinois territory. These lands are the first of the western country for richness of soil, healthiness of climate, and navigable waters; advantages enhanced by a position near the centre of the great valley of Mississippi, where the union of the great rivers and the centre of territory combine to fix so many interests, commercial and political. The staples will be wheat, hemp, and tobacco, lead, salt, and fur. Besides the bounty lands, upwards of five millions of acres of other public lands will also be surveyed by the first of June next; making in all in the territories of Missouri and Illinois a bout fourteen millions of acres subject at the time to the disposition of the government. The drawing of lots for the soldiers' bounties and the public sales, may be expected to come on soon after. The Indian title has been extinguished in the Missouri territory to about seventy thousand square miles; that is to say, to a tract of country about as large as the state of Virginia, and embracing all the latitude of that state. The line between the whites and the Indians begins three hundred miles up the Missouri River, at the mouth of the Kansas, in latitude 39 degrees 4 minutes north, and runs north over a rich country, one hundred miles to the head of the little River Platte, then east over na-

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Continued Spooners

ked, sterile ridges, one hundred and fifty miles and a half to the Des Moines (river of the Monks) then down the river 16 miles to the Mississippi. South of the Missouri the line begins at Prairie de Feu (fire prairie) thirty miles below the mouth of the Kansas, and runs south 254 miles down that river to Arkansas; then down the river supposed 250 miles to the Mississippi. The two and a half millions of acres intended for the soldiers in the Missouri territory are surveyed within these boundaries. We have this information from Colonel Benton and give it as such that those interested may rely upon it. (noticed 14 April, 1817).

Will of John Ruth

**Crawford County Will Record A
Nov. 1818 to Aug. 1858
pp. 25-26**

I, John Ruth of the County of Crawford in the State of Indiana do make and publish this my last will and testament replacing any other wills by me at any time heretofore made. And first I direct that my body be decently intured and that my funeral be conducted in a manner corresponding with my estate and situation in life and as to such worldly estate as it has pleased God to entrust me with, I dispose of the same in the following manner, to-wit:

First, I insist that all my just debts and funeral expenses be paid as soon after my demise as possible out of the first money that may come into the hands of my executors from any portion of my estate either personal or real.

Secondly, I will (and) bequest to my beloved daughter, Barbara, the wife of John Snell, twenty-five cents to be paid at the end of one year after my demise.

Thirdly, I will (and) bequest to my daughter Milly, the wife of John Cooper, the sum of twenty-five cents to be paid at the end of one year after my demise.

Fourthly, I will (and) bequest to my son George Ruth the sum of twenty-five cents to be paid at the end of one year after my demise.

Fifth, I will (and) bequest to my beloved wife Catherine Ruth all my personal property to and with all my household furniture together with all my real estate so long as she remains my widow, which estate is to be kept for my children; And if my wife should marry, the dowry is hers alone, and after her death, that is my well beloved wife Catherine Ruth, all my personal estate and real estate shall be equally divided share and share among the rest of my children, that

is: John Ruth Jr., Catherine Land, Sarah Holms, Nathaniel P. Ruth, Polly Ruth and Margaret Casey. And I hereby made and order in my worthy and esteemed friend James Glenn and my dearly beloved wife, Catherine Ruth executors of this my last will and testament.

IN Witness whereof I, John Ruth, the testator have hereunto set my hand and seal this 21st day of March in the year of our Lord 1837.

/s/ John Ruth

Signed, sealed and delivered by the above named John Ruth as his last will and testament in the presence of us who have hereunto subscribed our names as witnesses and in the presence of the said testator and in the presence of each other.

/s/ William Lasswell

/s/ Thomas L. Golden

A Codicial To The Will

I bequeath to Nathan Ruth, my grandson, the son of my daughter Mary Ruth, the sum of twenty-five cents to be paid at the end of one year after my demise. As witness my hand and seal this 21st day of March 1837.

/s/ John Ruth

State of Indiana) **Probate Court**
) **May Term 1842**
Crawford County)

BE IT remembered that on this day in open court before the honorable Michael Real, Probate Judge of the Probate Court of the County of Crawford in the State of Indiana personally came Thomas L. Golden and William Lasswell subscribing witnesses to the last will and testament of John Ruth, late of said County, deceased, who being duly deposed and said that they saw the said John Ruth sign and heard him publish and pronounce the same as his last will and testament. May 17th, 1842.

ATTEST: E. E. Morgan, Clerk

Recorded May 17, 1842.

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MORE: Wood & Fullenwider Families

An old photo of Louisa Lynch Claycomb survives with a notation that she is the daughter of Jeremiah Lynch and Mary E. Doolittle and a step sister to Joanna Wood Newkirk. It lists Frank Claycomb as her husband but does not have any date or indicate whether this was a first or second marriage.* An obituary for Henry Lynch indicates that she married Louis Morgan.** It is possible there were two marriages.

Source: Steve O'Toole, descendent.

(Biographical Sketches) p. 825 (Living History of Perry County, Indiana, by James Moody)

The Doolittles (pages 19-22)

The Doolittle Family is an old one in England, perhaps a thousand years old. The name appears in records before the first Stuarts were born.

In America the progenitor of all American Doolittles was Abraham Doolittle. He was born in England, probably around 1619 or 1620. He married a Joan Allen (or Alling) and came to this country at the age of 21.

The Doolittles have compiled an extensive history. Mary Emily Doolittle Lynch who married Levi Wood is the 7th generation of Doolittles in this country.

Mary Emily traces her ancestry as follows:

1st generation: Abraham and Joann Doolittle. Lived in Wallingford, Connecticut, d. at the age of 70 and is buried there. Abraham is believed to be the progenitor of all American Doolittles. He was born in England (parents not known) and came at the age of 21 to America. He is recorded as being in "Boston" in 1640 and in New Haven in 1643. He was Chief Executive officer of the colony in 1644 and in 1672 it was renamed Wallingford. He died in 1690.

Abraham married for the second time Abigail Moss in 1663. His son Samuel, from his second marriage with Abigail is the direct descendent.

2nd generation: Samuel, b. New Haven, Conn. July 7, 1665. He was the oldest son of Abraham's second marriage. Samuel's wife was Mary Cornwall of Middletown, Conn., b. November 20, 1665, d. Nov 16, 1742. One of his sons was also called Samuel.

3rd generation: Samuel, b. August 313, 1691. Liet. Sameul Doolittle m. Jane Wheeler * Aug. 1, 1714 in Wallingford, CT. He died July 17, 1736 in Palmer, Massachusetts. Her parents were Joseph Wheeler of Milford, Connecticut and Mary Power of Middletown, Connecticut. Jane's grandparents were Capt. Thomas Wheeler and Ruth Wood. Captain Thomas Wheeler was in King Philip's War and died of injuries received

there.

After Samuel's death Jane remarried, first, Henry Wright, Jr. of Springfield, Mass and later Josiah Berry of Worcester, Massachusetts.

One of the children of Jane and Samuel, also called Samuel was:

4th generation: Samuel, b. 2-28-1720 in Wallingford, Connecticut. He married Susanna _____, and died after 1793. His son was Moses.

5th generation: Moses Doolittle, born 1758 in Worcester, Mass., m. Elizabeth Buck, about 1799. He lived for a while in Petersham, then Vermont and later Upper Canada on the shore of Lake Ontario. He died August 22, 1829.

6th generation: Samuel, born Pittsford, Vermont, January 29, 1792, m. Sabra Scott, secondly, _____ Goad. He spent his early life in Northumberland County, below Toronto, Canada and later moved to Jennings Township, Indiana. His daughter, Mary Emily was born, October 25, m. Jeremiah Lynch and later Levi Benton Wood.

Sources:

Osborn, Viola, a direct descendent, Kalamazoo Mich. "The Doolittle Family in America" Vol. 1-8, (Part 8 was printed in 1967 in Dallas, Texas and compiled by Louise Brown and Malissa R. Doolittle. Part 1 was compiled by William Frederich Doolittle, M.D. Information on other volumes may be obtained by the organization called DOOLITTLES OF AMERICA). Vol. 5 contains the lineage of Mary Emily Doolittle Wood. pp. 487, 488.

**Wheeler Family info. from Eleanor Schoen, a descendent. A more detailed recounting of the Wheeler family history is in the book "Concord; American Town, by Townsend Scudder, Little Brown & Co., 1947, p18-36.*

There is a small town in Southern Indiana called Doolittle Mills. It was settled in the early 1800's. According to James Mosely who wrote the history of Perry County the town consisted of a flour mill, saloon, small grocery store and a post office, most of which were owned by members of the Doolittle families who lived here.

The small store was owned by John Doolittle, possibly a relative of Mary Emily. It was later owned by Dock Doolittle and then Oscar Doolittle.

Other businesses were owned by families named Underhill, Hosmer, and Graves, among others. The saloon developed quite a reputation while it was in existence and was nicknamed Sodom in its early days.

There are no longer any Doolittles in the town but it is still called Doolittle Mills. It is very probable that some members of Mary Emily's family lived there. The

only certain thing is that both Levi and Mary Emily are buried in the Doolittle Mills Cemetery.

Source:

Mosley, James, "Living History of Perry County, IN" p 241.

The Beals Connection (pages 23-27)

Joseph Beals, born February 22, 1829 in Crawford County was the son of Joseph and Ruth Stone Beals. His parents came from New York and Rhode Island respectively. Joseph died August 23, 1901 and is buried in Beals Cemetery. His grave is near those of his wives and is marked with a large sandstone and not engraved.

Joseph's parents had a large family but only six of their children lived. They were Jasper, Jasper Joseph, Samuel, Levi Ford, Nelson, Sarah, Betsy, S. A. Beals, Joseph H. Beals, Daniel Nathaniel Beals and several stillborn daughters.

Joseph, (the younger) married four times. Two of his wives were daughters of Levi Wood.

He married, first, Elizabeth Wood, June 10, 1850. She died August 10, 1858 and is buried in Beals Cemetery. They had three children.

Mary Independence Beals was b. July 4, 1851 and died August 23, 1854.

Samantha Isabelle was born January 7, 1855. She married B. H. Irwin. They later moved to Texas and had eight children, Florence, William Thomas, Mary, Cory Josephine, William H., Frank L., Clayton and Clara Ann, twins.

Clara Ann married Cecil E. Fortner and had five children, Gladys Fortner Ray, Ellie Mae Fortner Funk, James Cedric Fortner, W. T. Fortner and Clayton Lester Fortner. Ellie Mae has been researching the Beals family and has contributed to the family history.

John Alpheus Beals was born March 31, 1857, and died October 19, 1940. His wife was Mary Bowman. Their children were Dora Belle, 1876-1953; William O., 1878-1970; and John Hiram, 1880-1970. Dora married James Landrus and had daughter Audrey, Alpha, Lorraine and Aileen. William O. and his wife Bessie Reynolds had a son Russel H. John H. and Lizzie Kirsch Beals had a daughter, Hazel Shirley, and sons Earsel, Ray, Curtis and Norman.

Joseph Beals married Hannah Patrick after the death of Elizabeth. Hannah was b. in 1836, m. October 17, 1858 and d. November 5, 1862. Their children were David Otis Beals, b. November 11, 1859, d. June 6, 1938 and William Henry Beals b. September 25, 1861 who died at 21 days. David married Jane Bowman May

26, 1880. She died February 27, 1942.

Joseph's third wife was Nancy Jane Wood, b. June 23, 1844, m. April 23, 1863 and d. October 18, 1872. Their children were Daniel Douglas Beals, b. August 14, 1864; Mary Ida Beals, b. October 14, 1866; and Stuart Beals. Daniel died in infancy.

Mary Ida m. Willard Melcom (1856-1920) and later Wm. Otis Hosmer. Mary Ida had three children, Cleo Melcom, Claude Stuart Melcom, and Guy Melcom. Cleo married Estella Bunch and had no children. Claude married Marie Webster and they had two children. Guy married Hazel Dillman and they had three children. Mary Ida died in 1943.

Stuart married Louisa McCullum May 28, 1899 at the home of her parents in Leavenworth. He died in 1951 and Louisa died in 1953. They had three children.

Joseph married for the fourth time a woman names Esther Hanspire. There were no children of this marriage and she survived him, later marrying Samuel Duncan.

Stuart Beals

Stuart Beals was the grandson of Levi Benton Wood and his second wife, Malinda Gerard (or Jarret). Levi and Malinda's daughter Nancy married Joseph Beals and they settled near Leavenworth in Crawford County. Stuart was born on October 31, 1871.

He attended school at the Mansfield School and Marengo Academy. He started teaching when he was 17 years old and during the summer he studied in the law offices of Jerry Suddarth. He was admitted to the bar in 1895.

He married Louisa McCullum in Leavenworth on May 28, 1899. They had three children, Gordon, Alice and Joseph Orman.

Beals served as a school superintendent in the English Public Schools and was superintendent at the Marengo school. He was superintendent of the Crawford County Schools from 1903 to 1917. Later he was employed by the Milltown Bank. He died November 18, 1951.

Because of his many civic interests and his contributions to the community in 1979 a Stuart A. Beals Memorial Trust Fund was set up for the Crawford County Public Library and Crawford Countians made donations to the library in his memory.

Neither of Stuart Alva Beals sons had any children. Gordon was born March 20, 1900. He married Augusta Livingstone August 2, 1929. Joseph Orman Beals was born November 9, 1910. He married Fern Gresham November 25, 1931. Fern died May 19, 1964 and he married Kathryn Kellams in 1966.

Stuarts daughter Alice Garnet Beals was born October 14, 1904. She married Henry E. Fitch June 27, 1926. They had four children, Mary Elizabeth, b. July 8, 1930; Robert Stuart Fitch, b. April 24, 1932; Henry Gordon Fitch, b. November 30, 1939; Susan Jane Fitch, b. October 5, 1941.

Mary Elizabeth Fitch married Robert Fanning in 1951 and they had six children, James Robert, Barbara Jane, Nancy Louise, William Henry, Peggy Ann and John Richard.

Robert Stuart Fitch died April 21, 1951 in Korea.

Henry Gordon Fitch married Eileen Coughlin in 1966 and had two children, Megan Elizabeth and Deirdre Ann.

Susan Jane Fitch married Ronald J. Cwick in 1966 and their children are Joseph Eben, David Robert, and Daniel Gordon.

Sources:

Carol Cox Preflatish, "The Crawford Countian", vol 6, issue 4; "English, Indiana Memories of Main Street" by E. C. Roberts and Nick Roberts.

Family records and memories of T. F. Wood Beals genealogy from Mrs. Norman (Marcella) Beals

Obituary information from Jewell Sears, Librarian English Public Library who copied it from a scrap-book given to the library.

Notes from Garnet Fitch, a daughter of Stuart Beals.

Continued From Last Edition:

Order Book A February Term 1819

Elijah Lane acknowledged himself indebted to the State of Indiana in the sum of \$25 to be levied of his goods and chattels, lands and tenements, but upon this condition — That if he appear on the first day of next term of this court to give evidence on behalf of the State of Indiana against William Wilkerson, then this recognizance to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue.

THIS DAY William Wilkerson and James Barker came personally into Court and severally acknowledged themselves indebted to the State of Indiana for the use of Crawford County to be rendered in the sum of one thousand dollars each if default be made on this condition — Which is that if the above bound William Wilkerson shall personally appear at the first day of our next Circuit Court for Crawford County to be held at the courthouse in Mount Ster-

ling and then and there answer an indictment preferred against him by the Grand Jury for Crawford County at their December Term 1818 for Counterfeiting, then this obligation to be void, else to remain in full force and virtue in law.

State of Indiana vs. James Vanwinkle.

ON *scire facias* for non-attendance as grand juror at the December Term 1818.

ON THIS day the defendant Vanwinkle came personally into Court and having offered his excuse, it was thought sufficient — It was therefore ordered by the Court that he *scire facias* be dismissed.

State of Indiana vs. James McCullum — Indictment for Larceny.

THIS DAY came as well the prosecuting attorney as the said James McCullum in his proper person and for plea says he is not guilty in manner and form as in the indictment is charged against him and for his trial puts himself upon the county and the prosecuting attorney doth the like, whereupon came a jury, to-wit:

John Peckenpaugh	Robert Sands
Abraham Wiseman	Thomas Parr
William Matthews	William Riley
Edward Golden	Ephraim Blackburn
Ebenezer E. Morgan	Thomas Early
Richard Weathers	James Vanwinkle

twelve good and lawful men who being elected, tried and sworn well and truly to try the issue joined and true deliverance make between the State of Indiana and the said defendant McCullum, having heard the evidence and pleadings retired from the bar to consult, and after some time returned into Court the following verdict, to-wit: "We of the jury do find the defendant guilty of stealing a delf dish as charged in the indictment of the value of sixty-two and a half cents and do further find that he return the dish stolen and the value thereof and two fote the value thereof if the dish stolen be not restored shall make his fine to the State of Indiana for the use of Crawford County to be rendered in the like sum of ninety two and a half cents and we do further find that he receive two stripes on his bare back." Thomas Parr, foreman.

WHEREUPON on motion of defendant's counsel a rule is granted to show cause why a new trial shall not be granted.

ORDERED that the Court adjourn until tomorrow morning.

Davis Floyd

February Term 1819 — 2nd Day
Tuesday Morning, 9 o'clock, February 23rd,

1819. Court met pursuant to adjournment. Present: Same as yesterday.

JAMES R. Higgins, Esquire, having taken the necessary oath is admitted as an attorney and counsellor at law of this Court.

State of Indiana vs. James McIntosh

The defendant having his excuse it is deemed sufficient and ordered by the Court that the *scire facias* be dismissed.

State of Indiana vs. Thomas Maxwell — Scire facias.

Same order as last.

John J. Jamison, assignee vs. Isaac Fenece & Others — Notice for better bail.

THIS DAY came the defendant James Barker and the plaintiff by their attorneys, and Benjamin Huey, who was bail for the said defendant Barker justifies under oath his sufficiency. Therefore the notice is dismissed.

State of Indiana vs. James McCullum — Indictment for Larceny.

THIS DAY came as well the prosecuting attorney as the said defendant, by his attorney, filed the following reasons for a new trial together with the affidavit marked "A."

James McCullum vs. State of Indiana — Reasons for a new trial.

1. Verdict against law.
2. Verdict against evidence.
3. Newly discovered testimony.

State of Indiana vs. Isaac Landriss — Scire facias.

ON MOTION of defendant by H. Stephens, Esquire, this cause is continued until next term and alias answered.

State of Indiana vs. Robertson Spencer — Scire facias.

Same order as last.

Samuel Fulton, plaintiff vs. Aaron Cunningham, defendant

THIS DAY came the plaintiff by his attorney and on his motion this cause is dismissed. Therefore, it is considered by the Court that the defendant recover of the plaintiff his costs and charges by him about his suit in this behalf expended and the plaintiff in mercy.

Thomas Andrews, plaintiff vs. James Helms, defendant

AND NOW at this day comes the parties and by consent this suit is dismissed at the defendants cost, it is therefore considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover of the defendant his costs and charges by him about this suit in this behalf expended and the defendant in mercy.

David Raymond, plaintiff vs. Isaac Landriss, defendant — Debt.

THIS DAY came the parties by their attorneys and on the affidavit of William Landriss on behalf of the

defendant It is considered by the Court that the cause be continued and that the defendant pay the costs of the present term — THEREFORE it is considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover of the defendant the costs of the present term and defendant in mercy.

John Duncan, plaintiff vs. Samuel Philpot, defendant — In Covenant.

ON MOTION of plaintiff by his attorney, IT is ordered by the Court that this cause be continued and that an — *capias* issue the *alias capias* being returned not executed.

John J. Jamison, assignee, plaintiff vs. Isaac Fenece & Others, defendants.

NOW AT this day came the parties by their attorneys and one of the defendants, James Barker, having filed an affidavit marked "B." It is considered by the Court that the cause be continued until next term, and that the defendants pay the costs of the present term — THEREFORE, it is considered by the Court that the plaintiff recover against the defendants James Barker and Benjamin Bogard the costs aforesaid and the defendants in mercy.

Henry Barker, plaintiff vs. Joseph Tibbs, defendant

NOW AT this day came the plaintiff and on his motion this cause is dismissed — THEREFORE, it is considered by the Court that the defendant recover against the Plaintiff the costs and charges by him about his suit in this behalf expended and the plaintiff in mercy.

ROBERT HOLLEY Esquire was appointed to act as prosecuting attorney in those cases wherein the present prosecutor cannot act.

John Bullock, plaintiff vs. Christian Razor, defendant — Slander.

AND NOW at this day came the parties by their attorneys and the defendant by his attorney for plea says he is not guilty as the plaintiff says in his declaration charged against him, and for his trial puts himself upon the county and the plaintiff doth the like whereupon came a jury, to-wit:

John Peckenpough	Robert Sands,
Abraham Wiseman	William Matthews
William Riley	Edward Golden
Ephraim Blackburn	Ebenezer E. Morgan
Thomas Easley	Richard Weathers
Constant Williams	Brice Patrick

twelve good and lawful men who being elected, tried and sworn well and truly to try the issue joined having heard the evidence and pleadings retired from the bar to consult of their verdict and after some time, returned into Court the following verdict, to-wit: "We of the jury find the defendant guilty of the charge in the declaration and find for the plaintiff one hundred and twenty-five dollars in damages." Brice Patrick, foreman.